

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes _____
no _____

Property Name: Lawrence Kalmbacher House Inventory Number: HA-1303
Address: 1543 ~~1534~~ North Stepney Road Historic district: yes ☒ no
City: Aberdeen Zip Code: 21001 County: Harford
USGS Quadrangle(s): Aberdeen
Property Owner: MAPA LLC Tax Account ID Number: 056860
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 649 Tax Map Number: 51
Project: Section 200: I-95, North of MD 43 to North of MD 22 Agency: Maryland Transportation Authority
Agency Prepared By: A.D. Marble & Company
Preparer's Name: Emma Young Date Prepared: 9/27/2006
Documentation is presented in: Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, HA-1303, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: yes Listed: yes
Visit by MHT Staff yes ☒ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Architectural Description:

The Lawrence Kalmbacher House, located at 1543 North Stepney Road, Aberdeen, Harford County Maryland, is a two-and-a-half-story, frame, circa-1880, vernacular dwelling situated at the northeast intersection of Kalmbacher and North Stepney Roads. The dwelling features a four-bay, side-gabled main block with a two-story, two-bay, front-gabled rear ell. The property currently encompasses 1.03 acres of land.

A steeply pitched, side-gabled roof, sheathed in asphalt shingles, caps the dwelling, which sits atop a brick and fieldstone foundation. A pair of brick interior chimneys is located on the western end of the rear ell. Asbestos shingles cover the exterior of the dwelling.

The dwelling is lit by six-over-six light, double-hung sash, aluminum replacement windows. A one-story, full-width, shed-roof, wooden entry porch shelters the south (front) elevation. A one-story, two-bay, shed-roof addition extends eastward from the east elevation of the rear ell. A one-bay, one-story, pedimented wooden entry porch is located on the west elevation of the rear ell. (For

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended ☒
Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

MHT Comments:

Jim Touloume
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Blanton
Reviewer, National Register Program

7/2/07
Date

7/9/07
Date

200702174

a more detailed architectural description, see the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, HA-1303, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland).

Historical Narrative:

The following comes from the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, HA-1303, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland, except where noted.

In 1855, James and Samelia Wells sold 1.5 acres of land, which they dubbed "Agreement," to William J. Hollis. Thirty years later, in 1885, William Hollis sold of a small parcel of land, approximately 48.75 perches, to James B. Hollis. A \$500 mortgage taken out in 1889 by James and Laura Hollis refers to this property as "the lot on which they reside." Presumably, it was James and Laura Hollis who erected the dwelling at 1543 North Stepney Road for the house does not appear on Martenet's 1878 Map of Harford County, Maryland.

In 1911, John Finney Wells purchased the property, and in 1918, Wells acquired an adjacent 1.25-acre lot from the aforementioned William Hollis. The following year, Wells sold the property to Margaret and Robert Ross for \$1400. In 1916, Robert Ross conveyed the property to John and Ella Kalmbacher. After their purchase of the property on Stepney Road, Ella Kalmbacher died (unspecified date recited in Harford County Land Record Liber 246, Folio 350). John Kalmbacher later remarried, and via a strawman transaction on July 27, 1937, Kalmbacher added his second wife, Margaret, as an owner of the property (Harford County Land Record Liber 246, Folio 350, 351). The following year, John and Margaret Kalmbacher conveyed the property to Lawrence and Beulah Kalmbacher. Lawrence Kalmbacher died on March 29, 1970 and Beulah Kalmbacher died on October 13, 1999 (Maryland Tombstone Transcription Project 2004). Beulah Kalmbacher's estate conveyed the property in 2000 to the Mid-Atlantic Precast Association LLC (MAPA) in consideration of \$100,000 (Harford County Land Record Liber 3281, Folio 364). MAPA currently retains ownership of the property, and the dwelling is currently tenanted.

Vernacular Architecture

Harford County retains few examples of high style architecture. Instead, vernacular architecture prevails. Vernacular architecture is a term that refers to buildings and structures built in a functional manner, sometimes using indigenous materials, with little to no stylistic embellishment. Vernacular architecture transcends all time periods of architectural stylistic categorization; national examples date from the beginning of settlement in the seventeenth century and continue into the present day. Vernacular dwellings typically appear as common house forms and plans, with either a front-gabled, side-gabled, or cross-gabled form.

Statement of Significance:

The Lawrence Kalmbacher House, located at 1543 North Stepney Road, is a typical late-nineteenth-century, frame, vernacular dwelling that is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The dwelling represents a common architectural style and form found throughout Harford County.

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. that are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past;
- C. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**Eligibility recommended** _____**Eligibility not recommended** _____**Criteria:** ___A___ ___B___ ___C___ ___D___ **Considerations:** ___A___ ___B___ ___C___ ___D___ ___E___ ___F___ ___G___**MHT Comments:**_____
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date

that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
D. that have yielded or may be likely to yield information important in history or prehistory.

The Lawrence Kalmbacher House located at 1543 North Stepney Road is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The dwelling is not associated with any events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history.

The Lawrence Kalmbacher House is not eligible under Criterion B, as it has no known association with the lives of individuals of historical importance. Although John Finney Wells was a relative of the locally prominent Finney Family, the Lawrence Kalmbacher House does not directly relate to the history of the dwellings associated with the Finney Houses Historic District (HA-1751) in Churchville, Maryland.

The Lawrence Kalmbacher House is not eligible under Criterion C, as it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. The two-story vernacular style is a common architectural form found throughout Harford County and Maryland. The dwelling does not represent the work of a master nor does it possess high artistic values.

The property was not evaluated for eligibility under Criterion D as part of the current investigation.
Integrity:

The Lawrence Kalmbacher House retains integrity of design, location, association, and feeling but lacks integrity of materials, workmanship, and setting. The dwelling contains replacement exterior materials, a replacement roof, and replacement windows, all of which compromise integrity of materials and workmanship. The side yard is modernized with a poured concrete driveway, and many of the original trees, as well as the shrubbery, have been removed, which detracts from integrity of setting.

References:

Harford County Office of Land Records, Bel Air, Maryland
1937 Land Record Liber 246, Folio 350

2000 Land Record Liber 3281, Folio 364

Lanier, Gabrielle and Bernard L. Herman
1997 Everyday Architecture in the Mid-Atlantic. Johns Hopkins University Press: Baltimore, Maryland.

Martenet, Simon J.
1878 Martenet's Map of Harford County, Maryland. Simon J. Martenet: Baltimore, Maryland.

Maryland Historical Trust
1979 Lawrence Kalmbacher House, HA-1303, Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, Maryland.

Maryland Tombstone Transcription Project
2004 Baker's Cemetery (Associated with Grace Methodist Church of Aberdeen). As transcribed by Mercedes Pruitt for the MD Tombstone Transcription Project, available at: <http://ftp.rootsweb.com/pub/usgenweb/md/harford/cemeteries/baker2.txt>. Accessed

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended _____
Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

HA-1303

Lawrence Kalmbacher House

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on 21 August 2006.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee

2002 A Field Guide to American Houses. Alfred A. Knopf: New York, New York.

National Park Service (NPS)

1997a National Register Bulletin: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. United States Department of the Interior: Washington DC.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

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MHT Comments:

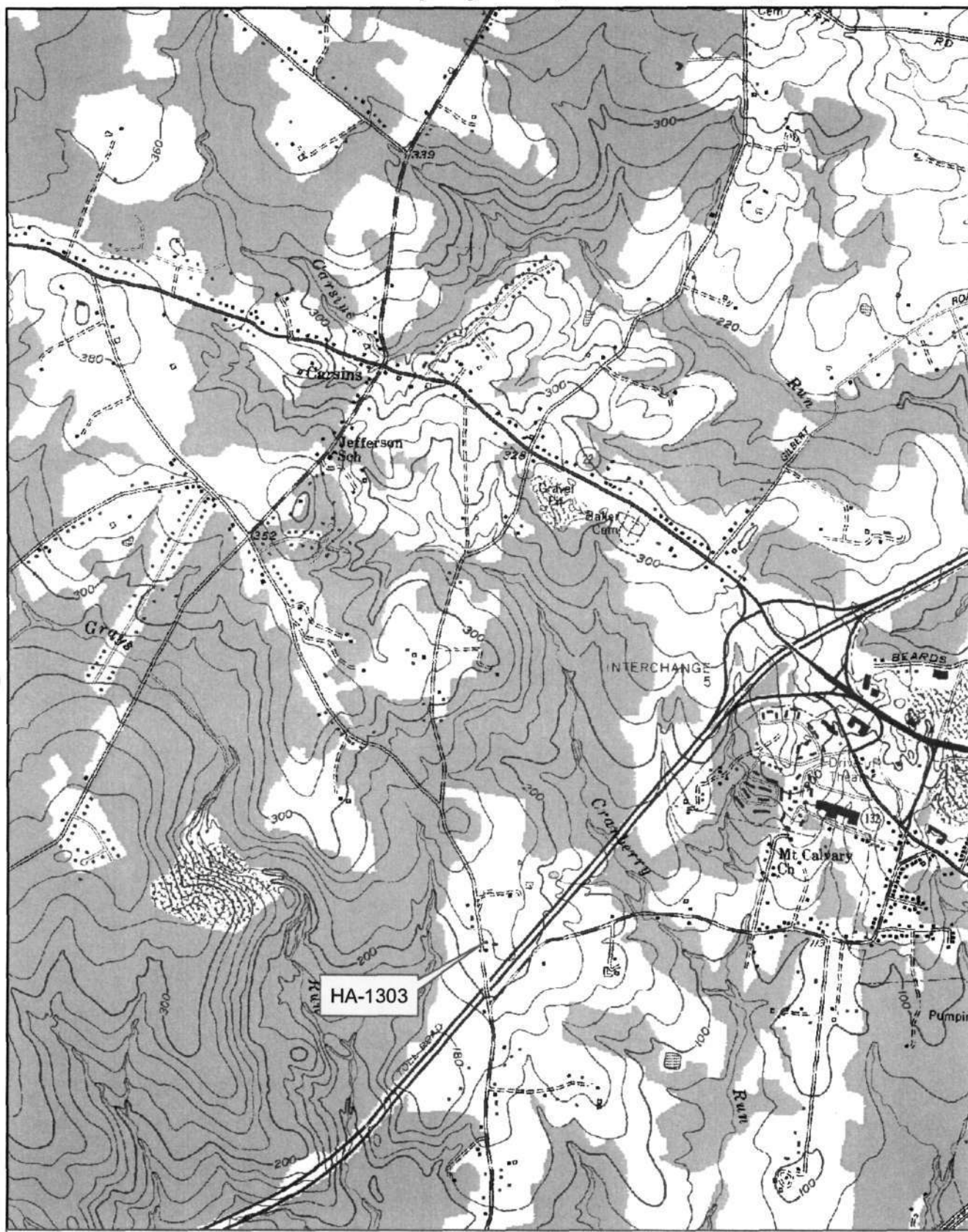
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

Lawrence Kalmbacher House
HA-1303
1543 North Stepney Road, Harford County



0 0.1 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8
Miles



1:24,000
Source: Aberdeen USGS 9.5"
Topo Quadrangle (1985)



HA-1303

Lawrence Kalmbacher House
Harford County, Maryland

E. Young

08.2006

MD SHPO

Southwest elevations; view to northeast

1 of 2



HA-1303

Lawrence Kalmbacher House

Harford County, Maryland

E. Young

08.2006

MD SHPO

South & east elevations; view to northwest

2 of 2

SUMMARY

HA-1303

Lawrence Kalmbacher House
1543 Stepney Road
Aberdeen, MD 21001

Built in the last quarter of the 19th century or the first quarter of the 20th century by either James Hollis or John Finney Wells, the Lawrence Kalmbacher House is a typical mid-to-late 19th century mid-sized Harford County farmhouse. The two-story, four-bay wide and one-room deep el-shaped configuration with entrance in the center two bays and a shed-roofed front porch is much like the Winfield Mitchell House (HA-1286) on Snake Lane.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI #1313035604

4D-1303

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Lawrence Kalmbacher House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Northeast corner of intersection of Kalmbacher & Stepney Roads

CITY, TOWN

Aberdeen

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

—DISTRICT

☒BUILDING(S)

—STRUCTURE

—SITE

—OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

—PUBLIC

☒PRIVATE

—BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

—IN PROCESS

—BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒OCCUPIED

—UNOCCUPIED

—WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

—YES: RESTRICTED

—YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒NO

PRESENT USE

—AGRICULTURE

—COMMERCIAL

—EDUCATIONAL

—ENTERTAINMENT

—GOVERNMENT

—INDUSTRIAL

—MILITARY

—MUSEUM

—PARK

☒PRIVATE RESIDENCE

—RELIGIOUS

—SCIENTIFIC

—TRANSPORTATION

—OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Laurence E. Kalmbacher, Sr.

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

1543 Stepney Road

CITY, TOWN

Aberdeen

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21001

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #: 253

Folio #: 208

STREET & NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☒ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☐ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This two-story gable-roofed frame house covered in asbestos shingles is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Kalmbacher and Stepney Roads.

Set on a low stone foundation, this house faces south with a two-story addition projecting from the north side.

The south or main section is four bays wide and one room deep with entrances in the center two bays. A one-story shed-roofed porch with carved posts and a railing with square balusters spans the front.

The rear addition is two bays long and one room deep with a porch on the west side and a shed-roofed addition with a saw tooth cornice on the east.

Most windows have 6/6 sash and beaded trim, and there is a central brick chimney.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1855, James and Samelia Wells sold 1-1/2 acres of "Agreement" to William J. Hollis for \$90.¹ Thirty years later, William and Elizabeth Hollis sold off a small parcel, 48-3/4 perches, to James B. Hollis for \$50.² A \$500 mortgage taken out in 1889 by James and Laura Hollis refers to this as "the lot on which (they) now reside".³ Presumably they built this house, since it does not appear on the 1878 Martenet's Map and stylistically seems to date from the second half of the 19th century.

In 1911, John Finney Wells purchased James Hollis' lot for \$350⁴ and, in 1918, William Hollis' 1-1/4-acre lot for the same price.⁵ The next year, he sold the pair of lots to Margaret and Robert Ross for \$1400.⁶ Four years later, John and Ella Kalmbacher purchased the property⁷ and the Kalmbacher family has owned the property since then.

The house is a typical mid-to-late 19th century Harford County mid-sized farmhouse. Its configuration and double entrances are very much like the Mitchell houses on Snake Lane.

1. Liber ALJ 6, folio 405
2. Liber ALJ 54, folio 457
3. Equity Records - Liber JAR 101, folio 65
4. Liber JAR 134, folio 5
5. Liber JAR 160, folio 135
6. Liber JAR 1621, folio 185
7. Liber DGW 183, folio 473

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land, Will and Equity Records of Harford County

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Natalie Shivers

1/79

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Historic District Commission

DATE

838-6000, x. 207

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

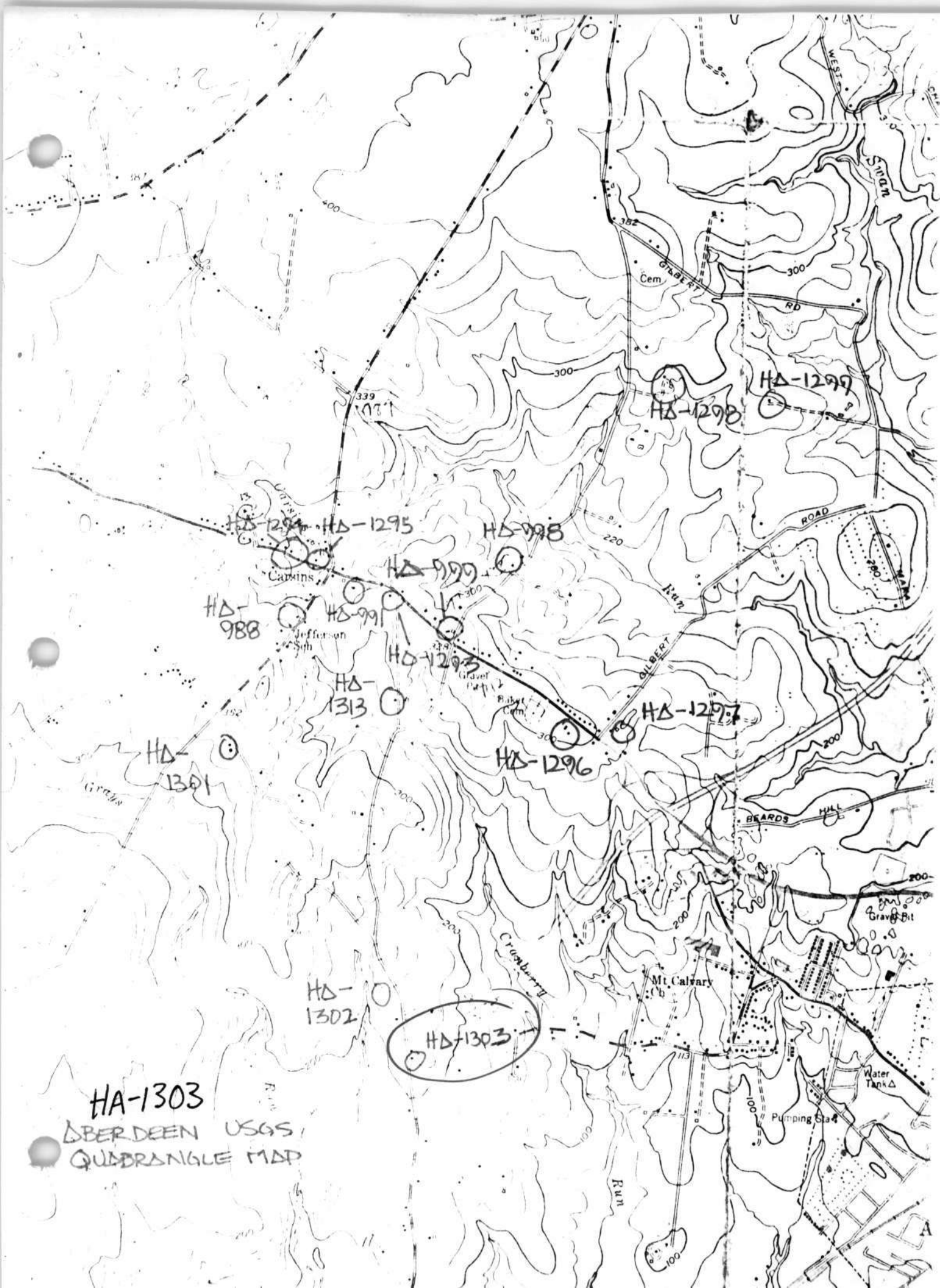
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

LAWRENCE E. KALMACHER HOUSE

Title Search

HA-1303

- | | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|--------------------|--|
| 1. | 253/208 | October 3, 1938 | Grantor: John Godfred & Margaret A. Kalmbacher
Grantee: Lawrence E. & Beulah V. Kalmbacher |
| 2. | SWC 246/351 | July 27, 1937 | Grantor: E. Mildred Gray
Grantee: John Godfred & Margaret A. Kalmbacher |
| 3. | SWC 246/350 | July 27, 1937 | Grantor: John Godfred & Margaret A. Kalmbacher
Grantee: E. Mildred Gray |
| 4. | DGW 183/473 | October 27, 1923 | Grantor: Elwood Homer
Grantee: John Godfred & Ella Nora Kalmbacher
Acreage: 2 lots: 1.) 48 3/4 P.
2.) 1 1/4 Acres |
| 5. | DGW 183/328 | August 14, 1923 | Grantor: Margaret P. & Robert H. Ross
Grantee: Elwood Homer
Acreage: 2 Lots: 1.) 48 3/4 P.
2.) 1 1/4 Acres |
| 6. | JAR 162/185 | January 8, 1919 | Grantor: John Finney Wells
Grantee: Margaret P. & Robert H. Ross
Sum: \$1400
Acreage: 1.) 48 3/4 P. - JAR 134/5
2.) 1 1/4 Acres - JAR 160/135 |
| 7. | JAR 134/5 | April 24, 1911 | Grantor: James J. Archer, Trustee
Grantee: John Finney Wells
Acreage: 48 3/4 p.
Sum: \$350 |
| 8. | Equity Records
JAR 101/65 | July 23, 1889 | Mortgagor: James J. Archer, Trustee for Elizabeth Archer
Mortgagee: James B. & Laura V. Hollis
Sum: \$500
Acreage: 48 3/4 p. |
| 9. | ALJ 54/457 | September 30, 1885 | Grantor: Wm. J. & Elizabeth Hollis
Grantee: James B. Hollis
Sum: \$50
Acreage: 48 3/4 p. |
| 10. | ALJ 6/405 | November 7, 1855 | Grantor: James & Samelia A. Wells
Grantee: Wm. J. Hollis
Sum: \$90
Acreage: Part of "Agreement" = 1 1/2 Acres |





Lawrence Kalmbacher House HA-1303
Aberdeen, MD 21001
Natalie Shivers
Southwest

6/79